

MINUTES

OF THE

Twentieth Spring Session

OF THE

BEAR CREEK

Primitive Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

Howard's Chapel, Stanly County, N. C.,

April 30th and May 1st and 2nd, 1904.

ALSO OF THE


Seventy-Third Annual Session

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

Union Grove, Union County, N. C.,

October 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1904.

Compiled and Distributed by J. W. JONES, Clerk and Treasurer,
R. F. D. 1. MARSHVILLE, N. C.



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Proceedings Spring Session, 1904.

HOWARD'S CHAPEL, Stanly County, N. C.,
April 30th, 1904.

Met at the stand at 11 o'clock a. m., and the introductory sermon was preached by Elder A. G. Morton from 63rd verse of 6th chapter of St. John. Intermission one hour; then assembled in the house and opened with praise and prayer by Elder Thos. Bell of the Mill Branch Association, and proceeded to business, Elder Mills presiding.

1. Called for and read letters from the churches and their status minuted.

2. Re-elected Elder J. F. Mills moderator and J. W. Jones clerk.

3. Invited messengers from sister associations to seats. Elder W. T. Broadway and Bro. Sam Snider of Abbott's Creek took seats.

4. Invited visiting brethren from sister associations to seats. Elder Thos. Bell of Mill Branch, Bro. H. W. Johnson of Country Line, Brethren James Moncess, Willie Young, M. C. Morgan, J. B. Young and H. E. Walser of Abbott's Creek took seats.

5. Appointed a committee of arrangements as follows: Brethren S. L. Mullis, Aaron Furr and L. Williams, with Moderator and Clerk.

6. Elected by ballot the following to preach at the stand tomorrow: Thos. Bell, W. T. Broadway, J. E. Williams and Walter Edwards, service to commence at 10 a.m.

7. Adjourned to 9:30 Monday morning.

Benediction by the Moderator.

Saturday evening Elders Thos. Bell and W. T. Broadway were called to the stand and preached. Text of Elder Bell unknown to Clerk. Elder Broadway's text, 4th verse of 6th chapter of Romans.

Sunday Morning, May 1st.

Met at the stand at 10 o'clock a. m. Worship opened by Elder A. G. Morton with singing and prayer; then Elder Thos. Bell preached from 9th verse of 3rd chapter of II Peter, followed by Elder Broadway, from "Submit yourselves under the mighty hand of God, etc." Intermission one hour; then reassembled and Elder S. C. Little preached

from 13th verse of 13th chapter of I Corinthians, followed by Elder Walter Edwards from no special text. The word was spoken in faithfulness and received in love and assurance.

Benediction by Elder Little.

Monday Morning, May 2nd.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Elder J. E. Williams.

8. Called on Arrangement Committee to report. Report received and committee excused.

9. Called roll of messengers, noted absentees, and read Rules of Decorum.

10. Opened the door of admittance for churches to join this association, at which time a letter was received and read and messengers appeared from a newly constituted church of Primitive Baptist faith and order at Pleasant Grove asking for membership, and they were received and seated in council. Elder A. G. Morton, on behalf of the association and as moderator pro tem., extended the messengers welcome and the right hand of fellowship, whereupon the chair was reoccupied by the moderator, Elder Mills, who is now a member of Pleasant Grove, the new church.

11. Called on corresponding messengers from sister associations to report. Elder W. T. Broadway reported that they of the Abbott's Creek union were in peace. Received corresponding minutes from Abbott's Creek and Sister associations.

12. Called on corresponding messengers from sister associations to report. No report.

13. Called on presbyteries to report. Elder J. E. Williams reported that himself, Elder H. M. Williams and Deacon Joel Mullis formed a presbytery, 13th day of January, 1904, and organized or constituted a church of the Primitive Baptist faith and order at Pleasant Grove, situate in Union county, N. C., about 4 miles north of the town of Marhville; and further reported that himself and Deacons J. A. Barbee and S. C. Jones formed a presbytery on 16th of April, 1904, at Crooked Creek and ordained Bro. W. D. Benton a deacon of said church.

14. That we return thanks to God, this church, and the people of this vicinity for kindness and hospitality during this meeting.

15. Adjourned to time and place mentioned in last minutes.

Benediction by the Moderator.

While the association was in session in the house, services were conducted at the stand, first by Elder Little and last by Elder J. E. Williams.

The preaching throughout the meeting was good, and thus closed one of the best and largely attended Spring Sessions.

ELDER J. F. MILLS, Moderator.

J. W. JONES, Clerk.



MESSENGERS, SPRING SESSION, 1904.

Bear Creek—W. P. Bowers*, Aaron Furr, A. J. Furr.

Bethany—N. G. Jones, E. C. Jones*, W. A. Dry*.

Crooked Creek—Eld. J. E. Williams, W. D. Benton*, H. E. Rowel*.

Clark's Grove—J. F. Howell, S. B. Tucker*, E. Barbee*.

Freedom—Eld. Jesse Brown*, J. H. Hinson, J. A. Holt.

High Hill—S. A. Helmes, C. A. Helmes, J. J. Hill*.

Howard's Chapel—W. H. Poplin, Henry Carpenter, J. S. Curlee.

Jones Hill—Eld. A. G. Morton, J. M. Austin, R. T. Burris.

Jerusalem—Joe Thomas*, James Godwin, W. A. Helmes*.

Liberty—John Eason*, Myers Medlin*.

Liberty Hill—Eld. H. M. Williams, R. McIntyre, A. G. Helmes*.

Lawyers' Spring—H. M. Baucom, W. D. Edwards, J. W. Jones.

Meadow Creek—J. A. Barbee, D. M. Hathcock.

Mountain Creek—Paul Saffy, A. Vanhoy, J. C. Miller.

Pleasant Grove—Eld. J. F. Mills, L. Williams, Ben Thomas.

Pleasant Hill—J. S. Norris, H. P. Cashen*, J. M. Stamper*.

Union Grove—T. F. Hill, I. N. Medlin, J. T. Price.

Watson—S. L. Mullis, E. C. Williams, W. E. Williams.

Absentees marked thus *.

Proceedings Fall Session, 1904.

UNION GROVE, Union County, N. C.,
October 1st, 1904.

Met at the stand at 11 a. m., and the introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. E. Williams; text, Mark 16:15. Intermission one hour, after which the ministers and messengers present assembled in the house. Praise and prayer by Elder W. R. Helmes; then proceeded to business, Elder Mills presiding.

The Clerk called to his assistance Bro. H. M. Baucom to act as reading clerk.

1. Called for and read letters from the several churches and their status minuted. (See table).

2. Re-elected Elder J. F. Mills moderator and J. W. Jones clerk.

3. Called on corresponding messengers from sister associations to report. Elder W. T. Broadway, Brethren Samuel Snyder and William Gallemore of Abbott's Creek appeared and were welcomed and seated, as were also Bro. Andrew Taylor and Elder H. Taylor of Silver Creek.

4. Invited visiting brethren of sister associations to seats.

5. Appointed a committee of arrangements as follows: Brethren Aaron Furr, J. F. Greene, Josiah Baucom, with Moderator and Clerk.

6. Appointed on finance committee: Brethren Myers Medlin and Aaron Furr.

7. The following elders were elected by ballot to occupy the stand on tomorrow: W. T. Broadway, Henry Taylor, A. G. Morton and J. E. Williams. Service at 10 a. m.

8. Adjourned to 9 a. m. Monday. Benediction by the Moderator.

Saturday afternoon while the association was in session in the house, Elders H. Taylor and W. T. Broadway preached at the stand. Elder Taylor used as a text Micha 5:3; Elder Broadway spoke from St. John 5:2.

Sunday Morning, October 2nd.

Service opened at the stand at 10 a. m., by Elder A. G. Morton; text, St. John 17:4. He was followed by Elder Henry Taylor from Song of Solomon 2:1-4. Intermission

one hour; then service was continued at the stand by Elder J. E. Williams; text, Isaiah 61:5. Service was closed for the day by Elder W. T. Broadway; text not known to Clerk. The ministers all seemed to have good liberty in preaching, much to the comfort of the brethren and sisters. They ascribed all honor, praise and power to the God of mercy and truth, and preached Jesus Christ as the Savior of the redeemed.

Monday Morning, October 3rd.

Met in the house at 9 a. m., pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Bro. Andrew Taylor of Silver Creek; then proceeded to business.

9. Called on committee of arrangements to report. The report was read, adopted, and committee discharged.

10. Called names of messengers, noted absentees, and read Rules of Decorum.

11. Called on corresponding messengers to sister associations to report. Bro. D. B. Howard reported that Bro. J. H. Hinson and himself attended the Abbott's Creek association, were received, and had a good meeting.

12. Appointed correspondence with sister associations as follows: To Abbott's Creek, Elders H. M. and J. E. Williams, A. G. Morton, and Brethren S. A. Helmes, P. A. and D. B. Howard, S. C. Jones, R. T. Burris and minutes; to Mill Branch, minutes; to Silver Creek, Elders J. F. Mills, J. E. Williams, A. G. Morton and minutes; to Senter, minutes; to Mountain District, minutes.

13. Called on presbyteries to report. Elder Mills reported that Elder Walter Edwards and himself formed a presbytery at Bethany on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in September, 1904, and ordained Bro. W. A. Dry a deacon of that church.

14. That our Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum be attached to these minutes.

15. Treasurer reports funds on hand from last year, \$2.90.

16. Finance committee report: Sent up this year, \$24.75; total funds, \$27.65.

17. That our next Spring session be held with the church at Pleasant Grove (the new church), 3 1-2 miles north of Marshville, Union county, N. C., commencing on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in May, 1905; introductory sermon to be preached by Elder Mills, Elder Walter Ed-

wards alternate; and that the annual or Fall session be held with the church at Liberty Hill, Stanly county, N. C., commencing on Saturday before 1st Sunday in October, 1905; Elder A. G. Morton to preach the introductory sermon, Elder S. C. Little alternate.

18. That the Clerk ask Elder Gold to publish notices of next sessions in Landmark.

19. That the Clerk superintend the printing of 700 copies of these minutes, distribute as usual, and that he have \$6 for services.

20. That we return thanks to God, this church and people of this vicinity for kindness and hospitality during this meeting.

21. That we now adjourn to times and places above mentioned. Benediction by the Moderator.

ELDER J. F. MILLS, Moderator.

J. W. JONES, Clerk,

R. F. D. No. 1, Marshville, N. C.

Monday while the association was in session in the house, the following conducted services at the stand: Elder Walter Edwards preached first; his text was I Peter 2:6. Elder Robt. Helmes then preached from Acts 10:34, 35. Service in the way of preaching was closed by Elder W. T. Broadway from Rev. 11:1. The word was preached in much power, and we hope the same will bear good fruit and lasting peace and harmony be our lot while in this tenement of clay. All honor to the sovereign God for such feasts.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1904.

Left over from last year	\$ 2.90
Sent up by the churches this year	24.75
Total funds	\$27.65
Getting out these minutes	\$15.00
For Clerk's services	6.00
Total expenses	\$21.00 — 21.00
Left in hand of Treasurer	\$ 6.65
J. W. JONES, Clerk and Treasurer.	

We are getting out 700 copies of these minutes, hence the increase in cost. The clerks of the churches will please leave off statistics at Spring session, or rather let the letters to Fall session show total statistics for twelve months. This will aid us much in making Annual Statistical Table.

CLERK.



ANNUAL COMMUNION MEETINGS.

CHURCHES.	CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.	THE ANNUAL COMMUNION MEETING TIME OF EACH CHURCH.
Bear Creek	Aaron Furr	1st Sun. in Aug.
Bethany	N. G. Jones	3rd Sun. in Aug.
Crooked Creek	W. D. Benton	3rd Sun. in July
Clark's Grove	J. F. Howell	2nd Sun. in July
High Hill	S. A. Helmes	1st Sun. in Sept.
Howard's Chapel	W. H. Poplin	4th Sun. in Sept.
Jones Hill	J. A. Little	3rd Sun. in Sept.
Jerusalem	T. A. Helmes	2nd Sun. in Aug.
Liberty	Myers Medlin	4th Sun. in July
Liberty Hill	A. J. Furr	4th Sun. in July
Lawyers' Spring	J. W. Jones	1st Sun. in Aug.
Meadow Creek	D. M. Hathcock	3rd Sun. in Aug.
Mountain Creek	A. F. Huneycutt	2nd Sun. in Oct.
Pleasant Grove	L. Williams	2nd Sun. in July
Pleasant Hill	J. S. Norris	4th Sun. in June
Union Grove	I. N. Medlin	2nd Sun. in Sept.
Freedom	J. A. Hoyt	1st Sun. in Sept.
Watson	S. L. Mullis	4th Sun. in May
	Bloomington, N. C.	
	Knott's Store,	
	Monroe,	
	Big Lick,	
	Monroe,	
	Efrd's Mill,	
	Big Lick,	
	Negrohead,	
	Monroe,	
	Bloomington,	
	Marshville,	
	Georgeville,	
	Bridgeport,	
	Marshville,	
	Statesville,	
	Monroe,	
	Whitley,	
	Sincerity, N. C.	

The above dates, including Saturday before, also represent the regular monthly meeting time of the churches.

ANNUAL STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.

NAMES OF MESSENGERS—FALL SESSION.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS—FALL SESSION.	By Experience	Baptized	Rec. by Letter	Restored	Excluded	Dis. by Letter	Deceased	In Fellowship	Contributions for Minutes
Bear Creek	W. P. Bowers, Aaron Furr, Daniel Furr	4	4	—	—	—	—	1	41	\$ 2.00
Bethany	E. C. Jones, N. G. Jones, W. A. Dry	—	—	—	—	1	1	9	9	1.25
Crooked Creek	Elder J. E. Williams, S. C. Jones, W. B. Benton	3	3	5	—	—	—	—	20	1.25
Clark's Grove	E. Barbee*, S. B. Tucker*, Adam Greene*	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1.00
Freedom	J. H. Hinson*, Isom Coley*, J. A. Holt	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	10	.75
High Hill	J. J. Hill, A. M. Helmes, C. A. Helmes	2	2	2	1	—	3	3	46	2.00
Howard's Chapel	W. H. Howard, P. A. Howard, Alva Howard	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	20	1.50
Jones Hill	J. S. Little, J. F. Greene, R. T. Burris	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	42	2.00
Jerusalem	James Godwin, W. A. Helmes, T. A. Helmes	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	18	1.50
Liberty	John Eason*, Myers Medlin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	.85
Liberty Hill	Elder H. M. Williams, R. McInyre, A. G. Helmes*	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	17	1.00
Lawyers' Spring	H. M. Baucum, Thos. Tyson, J. W. Jones	2	2	1	—	—	3	1	31	2.00
Meadow Creek	D. M. Hathcock, J. A. Barbee	4	4	—	—	—	1	—	25	1.40
Mountain Creek	J. C. Miller*, Paul Saffy*, Charlie Saffy*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	1.25
Pleasant Grove	Ben Thomas, J. A. Jones, L. Williams	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	11	1.00
Pleasant Hill	Elder Robt. Helmes, H. P. Cashen*, J. S. Norris*	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	1.00
Union Grove	T. C. Crump, J. D. Hill, Josiah Baucum	1	1	1	—	—	2	1	28	1.25
Watson	S. L. Mullis, E. C. Williams, Joel Mullis	2	2	—	—	—	7	—	23	1.50
Total 18 churches	Absentees marked thus *	27	27	14	1	1	20	8	400	\$24.75

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in one only living and true God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Art. 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, providence, grace and glory, and in relative union with the divine Word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Art. 3. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain the only written revealed word of God, and are the only perfect rule of faith and practice for God's church in her militant state while here on earth.

Art. 4. We believe the doctrine of Election, that God chose his church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Art. 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, their federal head.

Art. 6. We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin.

Art. 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Art. 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and his righteousness only.

Art. 9. We believe that God's elect or church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Art. 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

Art. 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men.

Art. 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Art. 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust, and a general judgment.

Art. 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1st. A Moderator, or Chief Speaker, and Clerk may be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

2nd. The Chief Speaker, or Moderator, shall take his seat at the hour to which the association shall be adjourned, and after prayer shall proceed to business. It shall be his duty to keep order, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as that of another; provided he appoint one of the members to fill the chair during the exercise of such privilege, and in no case shall give a vote unless the association be equally divided.

3rd. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Chief Speaker by the appellation of brother, and while speaking shall confine himself strictly to the subject in question, and shall not be interrupted unless he digress from the subject, and shall in no wise reflect on any other speaker, so as to make remarks on his slips and failings and imperfections, but shall fairly give his own views of the case without sophistry or criticism.

4th. No person shall speak more than three times on one subject without leave of the association.

5th. No person shall absent himself from the association without leave.

6th. No member of the association shall address any other member by any other term or name than that of brother.

7th. The Chief Speaker, or Moderator, shall not interrupt one member to prohibit him from speaking until his speech is finished, except he break the Rules of Decorum.

8th. The names of all the members of this association shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and be called over as often as the association may require.

Any member who shall willingly and knowingly break or violate any of the foregoing rules of this association, shall be reprov'd by the association in any way they may think proper.



